



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

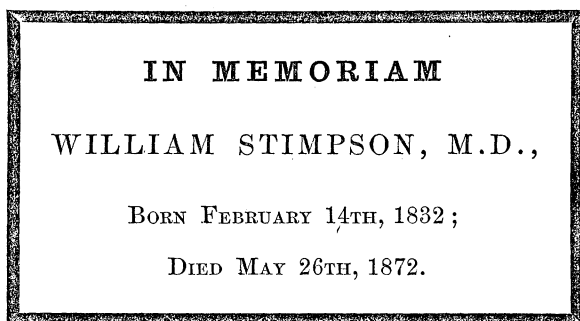
We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

NOTES.

A MEETING of the Chicago Academy of Sciences was held on June 11th, in honor of the memory of its late Trustee, Director of its Museum, and Secretary, Dr. William Stimpson. A sketch of the life of Dr. Stimpson was given by President Foster. Letters were read from Prof. Joseph Henry, Mr. George C. Walker and others, and remarks were made by members of the Academy, bearing witness to the great and faithful labors of Dr. Stimpson in the cause of science and in the work of the Academy. Mr. E. W. Blatchford offered a series of resolutions in honor of the memory of Dr. Stimpson and providing for the publication, in the Transactions of the Academy, of a Memoir on his life, and the entering of the following tablet on the records :



At a meeting of the Essex Institute held on June 12th, President Wheatland alluded to the death of Dr. Stimpson and called attention to the fact that his first experience in dredging, in which department of investigation he afterwards became so noted, was at a field meeting of the Essex Institute, of which he was a member. Mr. Putnam remarked on the great loss which science had met with in the death of Dr. Stimpson, and on his suggestion a committee was appointed to express, by a series of resolutions, the loss which the Institute experienced by the decease of its late member.

WE abstract the following notice of Major Lyon from the "Louisville Courier Journal" of June 25th :—

"Sidney S. Lyon, one of the most noted geologists in the West, died at his residence in Jeffersonville, Ohio, yesterday of paralysis, the result of wounds received during the late war.

Major Lyon was born in Cincinnati in the year 1807. He came to Louisville while a young man and supported himself for a time by portrait painting. Naturally of a studious disposition, and having an original mind, he became interested in the study of civil engineering. With the advantages of very little if any education at school, he applied himself at home and soon obtained a remarkable proficiency in the science; so great, indeed, had been his application and improvement that he was appointed by the Government, surveyor of the public lands in Texas. This exploration opened up to him another science that was just in its infancy. There were few works on geology when Mr. Lyon commenced the study, but he 'learned from the rocks.'

On his return from Texas he was appointed on the State geological survey of Kentucky with Dr. D. D. Owen, Prof. E. T. Cox, Leo Lesquereux and others, and it was on this survey that his eminent abilities as a geologist and topographical engineer were first made known to the scientific world. When hostilities commenced between the North and South, the United States Government secured the services of Mr. Lyon and he was attached to the command of Gen. Morgan, of the Fourth Kentucky Cavalry, as chief of the Engineering corps, and by his skill and particularly by his knowledge of the topography of Kentucky, rendered efficient service in the first campaign of the war. During this campaign, at Cumberland Gap, he received several wounds, from the effects of which he never recovered.

The home of Mr. Lyon on the Falls of the Ohio offered him peculiar advantages for the prosecution of his favorite studies. He devoted much attention to the Crinoidea of which he made a specialty, and his collection of crinoids is considered equal to any in the world. Mr. Lyon contributed several articles and drawings of new genera and species of crinoids, found at the Falls of the Ohio, to the Philadelphia Academy of Science. A large portion of the report of the Kentucky Geological Survey was also from his pen. The report of the Smithsonian Institute, for 1870, contains a contribution from Mr. Lyon upon the ancient mounds in Lyon County, Ky. For several years, however, his strength has not been equal to arduous work and he has devoted most of his time to study.

Mr. Lyon was eminently a self-made man. By persistent and earnest study, aided by a naturally fine intellect, he made himself one of the first scientists of this country, and his contributions to scientific knowledge have earned for him a lasting record in the roll-book of fame."

THE Royal Danish Society of Science proposes the following questions for competition for the year 1872:—*Question in History.* There has been discovered in late years, in the central and northern parts of Europe, an astonishing quantity of Roman and demi-Roman antiquities of the first centuries of the Christian

era. In the march of civilization, these "finds" throw light on certain interruptions and oscillations which seem to proceed from great wanderings of peoples who, in their turn, appear to be connected with the definite establishment of the iron age in the north, and with the first complete colonization of the Scandinavian peninsula. In order to explain this question, the Society asks for a description of the principal Roman and demi-Roman "finds" in the countries of the central and northern parts of Europe, which were situated beyond the borders of the Roman Empire, and also desires that this description be accompanied by an argument based as much upon these archæological data as upon historical documents, from which may be known the extent and importance of the current of Roman civilization in the countries mentioned and especially the changes which its interruptions and final cessation have brought on, in the civilization and colonization of the north.

Natural History Question. — It is now a hundred years since the celebrated observations of O. F. Müller on agamous reproduction (gemma-parity) of the Naiades was published, and although there is no reason to question their perfect accuracy on all essential points, it is very desirable to have them resumed in the actual light of science and with the means which it possesses to-day. Schultze, Leuckart and Minor have furnished history with valuable contributions of the manner of reproduction of the Naiades properly called, as Claus and Lankester have of Chætogaster; nevertheless, science ought to be in possession of materials sufficient for intelligence on all points of which it is necessary to keep account. It is not known definitely what is the first origin of buds or first individuals, and the relations between the modes of gemmiparous and scissiparous reproduction consequently need to be better explained; complete evolution, from the moment when one Naiad leaves the egg to that in which, among the generations sprung from that Naiad, there are found again sexual distinctions, has not been studied in all its phases, and it is still a question whether the same individuals (zoöides) are gemmiparous and sexual, or if the sexual and agamous reproductions are strictly distributed over different individuals or generations. As for the other two groups of Anellides in which agamous reproduction has been observed hitherto, namely, the Syllides and the Sepulides, the question is almost at the same point. For these reasons, the Society desires to urge a thorough research, and one answering the

actual demands of science, of agamous reproduction and all the points pertaining to it, of one of the groups of these setiferous Anellides. It therefore offers its gold medal as a prize to the one who shall solve this question in a satisfactory manner, either for one or several species of the group of Naiades (comprising Chaetogaster) or for one or several species of Syllides or Tubicolides. The papers should be accompanied by the necessary drawings explaining the points on which the researches have especially borne. The answers to these questions may be written in Latin, French, English, German, Swedish or Danish. The papers must not bear the name of the author but a motto, and must be accompanied by a sealed note, furnished with the same motto, enclosing the name, profession and address of the author. The members of the Society who live in Denmark do not take part in the competition. The prize awarded for a satisfactory answer to either one of the questions proposed, is the gold medal of the Society (value, about \$100). Papers must be addressed before the end of the month of October, 1873, to the secretary of the Society, Counsellor J. Japetus Sm. Steenstrup, Copenhagen.

THE Hassler Expedition left Talcahuana on the 25th ult. for Juan Fernandez where we spent two days about the island and one day lying in the harbor, called Cumberland Harbor, which gave us an opportunity of making a very satisfactory collection for the short space of time. As Prof. Agassiz and Dr. Steindachner were left at Talcahuana to proceed over land to Valparaiso, all the work at the island devolved upon myself, but considering all the disadvantages, our trip there was a profitable one and amply paid us for the trouble. Our course was a direct line to Juan Fernandez and back to Valparaiso, thus forming a triangular track and soundings were made both ways, the deepest being 2,410 fathoms. The weather was very beautiful and just the kind for enabling us to carry on our work to advantage. We spent May day on the island and with a fair wind reached Valparaiso on the 5th. We intended to remain here only two days, or just long enough to take on board our coal, but owing to several delays we shall be obliged to remain here one week. All the time here will be improved by the party to make as complete a collection as the time will allow and we are in hopes to do much in that direction.

We shall proceed from here to Callao where I suppose we shall arrive in nine days, from there to Panama, then Galapagos, etc. Soundings and dredgings will be continued and we hope to reap much scientific knowledge. Professor Agassiz is very well, excepting somewhat fatigued from his overland travel, and all the rest of our company are enjoying good health. The Professor was most successful in collecting during his travel from Talcahuana. — J. HENRY BLAKE. *Valparaiso, May 11th.*

THE meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as announced in our last number, will be held in Dubuque, Iowa, on Wednesday, August 21st. The meeting will be called to order at 10 A.M. by President Gray. After the usual formalities of organization, the general meeting will adjourn and the members will meet in their respective sections for organization, and as soon as this is accomplished, the reading of papers will be in order. The order of the last meeting, by which the retiring president will preside during the first day and deliver his address in the evening, will be followed at this meeting, as it seems appropriate to have the president's address, and the formal resignation of his chair to his successor, on the first day of the session. We trust that at this meeting of the Association, members will not forget the important bearing which a proper organization has upon its scientific success, for certainly at several former meetings sufficient attention has not been given to the formalities required by the carefully prepared Constitution of the Association. Especially should care be used in the nomination of the six members of the Standing Committee, the Permanent Chairman, Secretaries and Committees of the Sections: Every year there has been more or less complaint in regard to the admission of papers which were not worth the time they occupied, and at times papers have undoubtedly been excluded that had better claims for admission than others which were allowed to be read. This will ever be the case to a certain extent, from the very nature of the Association, but we feel convinced that if the following clause of the Constitution were strictly adhered to, many of these complaints would be avoided.

RULE 9. No paper shall be placed on the programme unless admitted by the Sectional Committee; *nor shall any be read, unless an abstract of it has previously been presented to the Secretary of the Section, who shall furnish to the Chairman the titles of papers of which abstracts have been received.*

Still another Rule of the Constitution, if properly attended to by the Standing Committee, would certainly save the Association from the discredit of publishing a few papers which a good natured committee had admitted to be read and discussed (sometimes with the hope that the discussion on the paper would induce its author to withdraw it from publication), but which have not the merit of "advancing science." The execution of this duty of the Standing Committee would also probably save the Permanent Secretary much disagreeable correspondence during the "printing period" after the meeting, and though it might reduce the size of the annual volume, it would certainly add to its value as well as to the credit of the Association. We allude to Section 11 of

RULE 4. Before adjourning, [it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee] *to decide which papers, discussions, or other proceedings, shall be published.*

Another important item in regard to the success of the meetings, and one to which every member having a paper to present and the Standing and Sectional Committees should give their hearty cooperation, is that of the daily programmes. The Constitution "requests" members to send the titles, with abstracts of their papers, to the Permanent Secretary, at least a day previous to the commencement of the meeting; but there is often great delay in getting the list of papers presented in type, and still greater in arranging the programme for each day. This might be avoided by passing a vote providing that papers on the Secretary's list, at the meeting of the Standing Committee the evening before the first general session, should have precedence over all others in making up the programmes by the Sectional Committees. It would also greatly facilitate matters if the Sectional Committees were obliged to give their programmes for the day following to the Permanent Secretary by 4 o'clock in the afternoon previous, and the programme for the first day immediately after the organization of the Sections, not allowing papers to be read in a Section until its Committee had fully prepared the programme for the day; for it is almost always owing to the little confusion in calling up the first papers, without proper announcement, that renders it so difficult to get smoothly started in the scientific work, while a recess of an hour to enable the Committee to prepare the programmes would save much more time to the section than thus taken, and would give members a chance to greet each other before real work commenced.

The following are the officers of the Dubuque meeting. *President*, J. Lawrence Smith of Louisville, *Vice President*, Alex. Winchell of Ann Arbor. *Permanent Secretary*, Joseph Lovering of Cambridge. *General Secretary*, E. S. Morse of Salem. *Treasurer*, W. S. Vaux of Philadelphia. *The Standing Committee* consists of the above named officers and the following officers of the preceding meeting, Asa Gray of Cambridge, G. F. Barker of New Haven, and F. W. Putnam of Salem. (Six more members of the Standing Committee are elected at large from the Association on the first day, and the Permanent Chairmen of the Sections become members of the Committee.) *Local Committee*.—H. T. Woodman, chairman; C. A. White, 1st vice chairman; Asa Horr, 2d vice chairman; Samuel Calvin, local secretary; E. D. Cook, assistant secretary; R. A. Babbage, treasurer; and 205 other gentlemen. We are convinced by the cordial tone of the circular of the Local Committee and from private letters received, that the citizens of Dubuque are resolved to spare no effort on their part to make the 21st meeting of the Association a decided success. We quote the following items from the circular:—

On the evening of Wednesday, August 21st, a reception will be extended to the Association by the Hon. Wm. B. Allison, U. S. Senator elect, and Chairman of the Committee of Reception. Response from the Association, after which Prof. Asa Gray, retiring President of the Association, will deliver his address and give up the chair to his successor. From the success that has already attended the efforts of the Special Committees, and the expressed determination of the citizens to extend a liberal hospitality to the members, we can confidently promise that all can be entertained at private residences, *free of charge*, during the session. The Local Committee, therefore, earnestly request those intending to be present to notify the Local Secretary by letter as soon as possible. Members and those intending to become members will report immediately upon their arrival at the Reception Room of the Local Committee and register their names, when they will be conducted to the places to which they have been assigned. Notice of the location of the Reception Room of the Local Committee will be posted at the railroad depots, steamboat landings, and in the street cars and omnibuses of the city. Negotiations with the railroads have now progressed so far as to make it almost certain that we shall be able to give return passes over all the principal lines. All railroads leading from the city have generously offered the use of their lines for excursions to localities of special interest. Steamboats on the Mississippi river have also been tendered for a similar purpose. Arrangements for a number of excursions have been made, subject to the approval of the Association. Carriage excursions to the lead and spar caves, smelting furnaces, and to the exposures of fossiliferous rocks will also be provided for. Microscopists will confer, as soon as possible after their arrival, with the Curators of the Iowa Institute of Science and Arts at the Reception Room of the Local Committee, in relation to the care of any instruments or specimens they may have for exhibition.

“NATURE” for June 20th opens with a résumé of the discoveries of Livingstone, and gives an account of the latest authentic reports, which place him at Unyanyembeh, where stores were

being sent him under charge of his son. It is Livingstone's purpose to go southward and discover the outlet to the great basin of the Tanganyika, extending from about 3° to 10° S. lat. and 27° to 39° E. long., which he had discovered, and explored on all sides except the southeastern.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. C. H., Yellow Springs, Ohio.—It is not at all improbable that some *Tachina* parasite infests *Coreus tristis* De Geer. It is well known that beetles in the imago state are sometimes so parasitized, and we have bred a small *Tachina*-fly from *Cassida aurichalcea* Fabr. See also AMER. NAT., Vol. V, p. 217. We should like specimens from *Coreus tristis*.—C. V. R.

Mrs. P. H., New Haven.—The specimens of insects you sent to the NATURALIST, and which you found in such numbers on May 20th, are doubtless the *Termes frontalis* Haldeman (order Neuroptera), and are called the American white ants. The workers and females are white and wingless. The males, which are mostly black and winged, appear in May and June and for a few days are often seen in countless swarms. These insects live in moist, decaying wood only, and doubtless found a congenial home under the doorstep mentioned.—E. N.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Proceedings of the California Academy of Science. Vol. iv, Pt. iv, 1871. San Francisco. 1872. Rectification of T. A. Conrad's "Synopsis of the family of Naidades of North America." By Isaac Lea. 8vo pamph. New Edition. Philadelphia. 1872.

Report of the Entomological Society of the Province of Ontario, for the year ending 1871. 8vo pamph. Toronto. 1872.

Preliminary Report of the United States Geological Survey of Montana and portions of adjacent Territories, being the 5th Annual Report of Progress. By F. V. Hayden, United States Geologist. Conducted under authority of Secretary of the Interior. 8vo. pp. 538. Illustrations and Maps. Government documents. Washington. 1872.

Annual Report of the Indiana Horticultural Society, Proceedings of the eleventh annual session held at Indianapolis, Jan., 1872. 8vo cloth. Indianapolis.

Natural History of the Tres Marias and Socorro. (From the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. June 7, 1871.) By Andrew J. Grayson. 8vo pamph.

Amnesic and Alaxic Aphasia, etc. By T. M. B. Cross, M.D. 8vo pamph. Louisville. 1872.

Descriptions of New Species of Fossils from the vicinity of Louisville, Kentucky, and the Falls of the Ohio. From the collections of Dr. James Knapp of Louisville. By James Hall and R. R. Whitfield. 8vo. 8 pages. May, 1872.

Hypotheses. By F. J. Finois. 8vo pamph. pp. 32. 1872.

Nes Silicon Steel. 8vo pamph. Rome. 1872.

Custodian's Report of the Boston Society of Natural History for the year ending May 1, 1871. Boston. 1871.

Remarks on the Nomenclature of Achromatic Objectives for the Compound Microscope. By Dr. J. J. Woodward, U.S.A. 8vo pamph. (From the American Journal of Science and Arts, Vol. iii. June, 1872.)

On Reversions among the Ammonites. By Prof. A. Hyatt. 8vo pamph. 1870.

Catalogue of Spheniscidae. By Alpheus Hyatt. 8vo pamph. (From the Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., May 17, 1871.)

Monographie des Poissons de Cuba Compris dans la sous-famille des Sparini. Par Felipe Poey. (Extrait des "Annals of the Lyc. Nat. Hist. of N. Y.," Vol. x.) 1872.

Fifth Annual Report of the Provost to the Trustees of the Peabody Institute of the city of Baltimore. June 6, 1872. 8vo pamph. Baltimore. 1872.

Annual Report of D. F. Boyd, Superintendent of Louisiana State University, for the year 1871, to the Governor of the State of Louisiana. 8vo pamph. New Orleans. 1872.

Description of the Balanoptera Musculus in the possession of the Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. By Thos. Dwight, Jr., M.D. 4to pamph.

Tri-Daily Bulletin and Tri-Daily Weather Map, issued at the War Department, Office of the Chief Signal Officer, June 1, 1872. 3 copies each.

Descriptions of New Species of Fossils from vicinity of Louisville, Ky. From the Collection of Dr. James Knapp. By James Hall and R. P. Whitfield. (Continued.) pp. 8. 8vo. June. 1872.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Part 3. Oct. - Dec., 1871. (Recd. July 1, 1872.)

History of the Names Cambrian and Silurian in Geology. By T. Sterry Hunt. (From the Canadian Naturalist, April and July, 1872.) 8vo. pp. 64.

Fossil Cephalopods of the Museum of Comparative Zoology. Embryology. By A. Hyatt. (Bulletin of Museum of Comparative Zoology, Vol. iii, No. 5, July, 1872) 8vo. pp. 59-112. 4 plates.

The American Journal of Science and Arts. La Revue Scientifique. Series 2. Nos. 50-53, 1872. Paris.

Third Series. July, 1872. New Haven.

Nature. Nos. for June and July, 1872. London.

The Academy. Nos. for June and July, 1872. London.

The Field. No. for July, 1872. London.

Journal of Botany. No. 114. June, 1872. London.